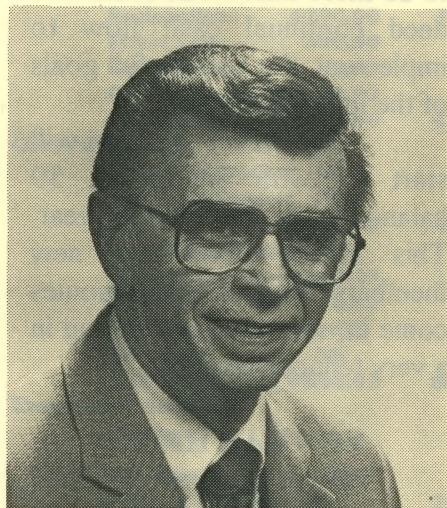


Stinchcomb Selected As New AKT Executive Director



Bill Stinchcomb

Bill Stinchcomb, founder and owner of The BiSti Group, Topeka, has been retained by AKT as the Association's Executive Director effective May 1.

The AKT Central Office has been relocated in the BiSti offices at 817 SW 6th Street, Topeka. The Central Office's telephone number is 913-233-8866. The toll-free number remains the same, 800-343-2779.

Stinchcomb, a native Kansan and Communication Arts graduate of Washburn University, also serves as Executive Director of the Kansas Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Counselors Association (KADACA). KADACA is a 500-plus member professional

association providing legislative advocacy, education and credentialing and other services for its counselor members and others working in the alcoholism and drug addiction treatment and prevention fields. Stinchcomb, through a contract with The BiSti Group, has been the association executive manager since March, 1990.

Formed in 1989, The BiSti Group has evolved into a small firm which provides association management and association services as well as planning and implementing conferences, workshops and meetings for non-profit organizations, private businesses and individual

(Continued on page 3)

For Your Information...

Convention Feedback

by Trish McIntire

The AKT 1994 convention is over, and we are beginning to look to Salina and 1995. A major part of the process is to now review and evaluate the convention held in McPherson.

Despite limited return of convention feedback response sheets, several trends became apparent. There was general agreement that the convention in McPherson was a success. High marks were given the convention site and the overall convention. Also, generally well received were the meeting rooms and scheduling

(Continued on page 2)

AKT Welcomes New Board Members

Three new AKT board members were welcomed aboard at the April board meeting in Lawrence. Ric Averill began his duties as your new President at that meeting also.

Trish McIntire, at-large member in the Children's Division, is a graduate of the University of Kansas and Emporia State University. Since these degrees are in theatre, she has not given up her day jobs at Ark City Memorial Hospital and H&R Block.

Trish is active in all aspects of theatre. She has worked with

community, library, arts council, educational and museum programs. Trish has also spent the last three years as the Kansas Chairperson for Theatre In Our Schools Month.

Jeannette Bonjour now represents the Secondary School Division as an at-large member. While currently teaching both drama and English at Lawrence High School, Jeannette is also working on her Master of Arts degree from the University of Kansas. An undergraduate of the University of Arkansas, Jeannette

(Continued on page 3)

Notes from the President...

Averill Begins Two Year Stint As AKT President

AKT Welcomes BiSti!

At long last we are able to announce that the position of Executive Director has been filled. Bill Stinchcomb of Topeka will serve in that capacity through his management service, "BiSti." Bill will be publishing The Marquee, handing financial reporting, answering the phone, keeping the script library, and helping us put together our convention.

Bill's company also manages the Kansas Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Counselors Association (KADACA) and serves as their Executive Director as well. Hmm, after the late nights at last convention, maybe he can give us a few referrals!

We had an extensive interviewing process with 20 of the 25 candidates. Along the way we made several new friends, including Kylie Schwerdtfeger of

Wichita, whom we hope to involve as a Board Member in our newly revived Professional Division, and Randy Vernon of Lawrence, who will be doing some grant writing for AKT.

IMPORTANT INFO!

The AKT office was officially moved to Topeka on May 1st. The 800 number is still the same (1-800-343-2779), and the new AKT address is:

Association of Kansas Theatre
817 SW 6th
Topeka, KS 66603

ATTENTION \$\$ REPORT

AKT will finish this year in the black! This is a wonderful heritage from the tenure of John Hunter which was maintained by Bill Brewer. My goal is to not only break even but to see AKT build into a significant state-wide

force for theatre - in our communities, schools, and government. To do this we have to do more than break even. We need continual cash flow to implement the wonderful goals of the long range plan.

This year's budget will start us with an almost \$0 balance going into the new year. This means that until new memberships and grant monies come in, we will be operating in a very tenuous manner.

YOU CAN HELP!

If you have not renewed your membership for the '93-'94 year it is IMPERATIVE that you do so. Keep this organization thriving. Be a part of it every year -- not just the years when the convention is close or appeals to you.

(Continued on page 4)

The Marquee is published as a membership service of the Association of Kansas Theatre, Inc. Members are encouraged to submit information and articles about their work, special interests, honors/awards, or issues of concern to the general membership.

The mention of a product, service, publication, conference, workshop, meeting, etc., in The Marquee does not constitute endorsement or sponsorship, nor is it an indication of quality by The Marquee or AKT unless specifically stated.

The Marquee is a publication of AKT Central Office, 230 Curtis Street, Hutchinson, KS 67502-2422. 1-800-343-2779.

Lou Brewer
Interim Editor

Convention Feedback...

(Continued from page 1)

of shows and workshops. Problems were cited in the areas of meals and hotel choice. Advance publicity of the convention proved to be another area needing work. Specific requests covered earlier information on starting times and scheduling of workshops.

On specific workshops and performances, the responses were very favorable. There were over 22 workshops and performances scheduled in McPherson (not

counting response sessions and lunches). Feedback was provided on 14 different events. Almost all were recommended for repetition at a later convention. The general ratings of all sessions were high. Especially high responses went to the Lovewell Institute and video auditions sessions.

If you did not get your response sheets in, or your have comments or suggestions to share with the board, please send them to the new AKT office in Topeka.

Stinchcomb New Executive Director

(Continued from page 1)

workshop presenters.

Born in the rural Marion County community of Aulne, Kansas, Stinchcomb was reared in Wichita and attended Wichita schools. While attending Wichita University, he gravitated into journalism, obtaining his first professional job in the field as a photographer for the Wichita Beacon. Following a stint in the Army, during which time he served at the Army Home Town News Center, he returned to the Beacon as a reporter. His career in journalism included reporting and/or editing positions with The Wichita Eagle; Channel 12, Wichita; the Houston Chronicle, Houston, Texas; Channel 13, Houston; Channel 3, Wichita; and for 14 years various editorial positions with The Topeka Capital-Journal.

In 1981, he made a career change and joined Washburn University as Executive Director of Informational Services. His duties included overseeing all university publications and assistance in the university's effort for student recruitment, alumni relations and university fundraising.

Returning to the journalism field, Stinchcomb in 1986 helped launch The Topeka Business Report (now the Topeka Metro News), an alternative weekly publication serving the greater Topeka area and portions of northeast Kansas. He served as managing editor of the publication until leaving in March 1989 to form The BiSti Group.

New Board Members Welcomed...

(Continued from page 1)

has also taught at Jenks High School in Jenks, Oklahoma.

Since 1987, Jeannette has directed numerous plays for both high schools, for Lawrence Community Theatre, and at the University. Jeannette is an accomplished actress also, having appeared in such productions as Quilters, Gypsy, and The Shadow Box, just to mention a few.

Heather Laird is the new chair of our revitalized Professional Division. Heather is the principal casting director for Wright/Laird Casting in Kansas City. She has cast several movies recently, including A Matter of Justice and countless commercials.

Heather graduated from the University of Kansas with a degree in theatre. After spending 10 years in L.A. and establishing a foothold in the casting business, she returned to Kansas on several casting

projects and formed an agency here in Kansas. At Convention '94, Heather led a wonderful workshop on commercial auditions. One of her principal goals as chair is to re-establish the AKT professional auditions.

Holly Andrews is welcomed aboard as the at-large student representative for the University/College Division. At the time The Marquee went to print, we had not received biographical information on Holly, but we do know that she attends Washburn University. We will bring you further information on Holly in the next issue.

All board members would like for AKT members to contact them at any time you have a request, a concern or simply a suggestion. Remember, AKT is your organization, but you have to be willing to give your input.

Scribbles from Lou...

The last ten months have certainly been some that I will never forget. When the AKT Central Office was moved to our home (and garage) last July, I really had no idea how involved I would eventually become in the whole AKT process.

Writing and editing these four issues of The Marquee has been a blast (even when I had to bug people to get their articles/news in to me)! Journalism was my second love during my college years, and although I have used these skills in all of my jobs, I have never enjoyed it as much as I did in publishing this newsletter.

I would just like to say thanks to everyone who helped me during these last ten months. Your understanding when

I didn't immediately know the answers to your questions, made me realize that it was alright not to always have the correct answer at the tip of my tongue.

The Convention was definitely a highlight for me this year, because I actually got to put names and faces together. Along with all of the excellent performances and workshops, I got to personally know several of you. I'm looking forward to seeing you again next year in Salina.

Support for Kansas theatre is continuing to grow. Please be a part of this growth by continuing to be active in AKT.

Lou Brewer
Interim Editor

Bonjour Reflects On Her First AKT Convention

by Jeannette Bonjour

If someone had told me when I started teaching this year that I would find a group of people who would support me completely and welcome my ideas and energy, even though I'm "only" a first-year teacher, I probably would not have believed them. So imagine my delight in finding those people at this year's AKT Convention in McPherson! Ric and Jeanne Averill had encouraged me to join AKT, and I had, but to be quite honest I did so because I thought it would be

a good idea to simply belong to a professional organization. I never expected to find a family.

I was nervous and concerned about the fact that I wouldn't know more than two or three people at the convention. Sure that I would be politely tolerated, yet not fully accepted, I packed my bags and headed off to McPherson. From the minute I arrived, I felt at ease. The performance that first evening by the Thunderbird Theatre Company was wonderful and brought us all together. More than the performances though, as good as they were, I grew the most in the workshops and through the contacts, no ... the friendships I made with other theatre professionals. I will never forget my first AKT convention and the feeling of support I have carried with me ever since.

If you have never attended the convention because you were concerned about the quality of the workshops, or the atmosphere among the members, or the usefulness of building a community among other people who love and respect theatre in Kansas, then I feel compelled to put your mind at ease! Come next year! It was an uplifting, recharging, reaffirming weekend for me; if you ever feel that you need any of those things, I urge you to make the trip to Salina next February 16-19. See you there!

Notes From The President...

(Continued from page 2)

And/or you can give a donation! I know we're one of many non-profits, but we can do a lot for you, including new programs like the Southwestern Bell Grant we received to provide money directly to community theatres for participation in AACT/FEST.

Please give your best possible support to AKT. You won't regret it.

FINAL NOTE

If you have a question, an idea, you're irritated with us, you don't know why we did or didn't do something, call a Board Member. We're having a ball taking this organization into the future, and we want to feel we're doing it with full organizational support! So if you have an opinion, share it with us first!! I guarantee we'll act on it -- one way or the other!

Secondary Division Seeks Workshop Input

If you are teaching drama/theatre to young people in the state of Kansas, whether as a secondary school teacher or in some other setting (e.g., parks and rec program, library, summer theatre classes, etc.), the secondary school division wants to hear from you. We are very concerned with meeting the needs of all the teachers in the state at next year's convention, and we are planning to offer several workshops aimed just at those of us who work with young people on a daily basis.

Some ideas in the works include: *Solving special technical problems (or even how to get started in this area!)

*Selecting a season

*State-wide resources for Secondary School Theatre

*"Stuff They Haven't Seen" - new monologues and forensics material

*Simply scheduling a round table discussion to get support and ideas

If any of these sound good to you, or if you have an idea or two of your own, will you please call the AKT office at 1-800-343-2779 and leave a message for Linda Uthoff or Jeannette Bonjour or write to either of us at the addresses listed on the back of The Marquee. We are truly committed to meeting your needs at convention, so let us know what they are!

A Note From Jeannette...

Community Theatre Search Begins

I am just beginning the task of compiling information on **EVERY** community theatre in Kansas for the AKT board. The ultimate goal of the project is a complete database of information on not only where these theatres are located, but on the size of the facilities, the number and types of shows being produced, and the AKT membership status of these organizations.

If you know of any new community theatres that have raised the curtain in the state this year (or of any that may have unfortunately had to bring it down), please send as much information as you have directly to me. It is very important that I receive the name, address, and phone number of a contact person, if possible.

I know there are several community theatres across the state that are not members of AKT, but I would like to list these organizations because the focus of this project is to list **ALL** community theatres in Kansas. If your group is not an AKT member, please contact me.

This summer I will be contacting arts councils and chambers of commerce across the state, but your help now will greatly reduce the cost of mailings and phone bills. Send the information to me at 501 E. 22nd Terrace, Lawrence, KS 66046. Thanks for your help.

Jeannette Bonjour

Columbian Theatre Schedules Summer Youth Theatre Academy

Auditions and registrations for the Columbian Summer Youth Theatre Academy began last Saturday, May 14, and will conclude on Saturday, May 21. Auditions will be held between 9 A.M. and 11 A.M. at the Wamego Middle School. The Academy will be held Mondays through Thursdays, June 8-July 5, and Mini-Academy will be held June 28-July 5 for students entering Kindergarten through 2nd grade this fall.

Students currently enrolled in grades 2-12 are eligible to participate. No theatre experience is necessary; all students are accepted regardless of skill level. Both Academies will encompass work in acting, movement, voice, creative drama, setbuilding, painting, makeup, costuming and publicity, and all work will culminate in a final production of The Magical Pied Piper on July 2, 3 and 5 at the Middle School.

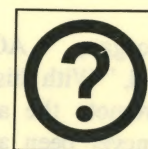
Students can register by attending auditions or by calling the Columbian Theatre and Art Center at 456-2029. Cost for the four-week Academy is \$30.00, and \$10.00 will cover the cost of the Mini-Academy. For more information, contact Linda Uthoff, Columbian Theatre Artistic Director, at the above number.

Reports Needed From Theatre In Our Schools Participants

Theatre In Our Schools Month activities have been completed according to Trish McIntire, Kansas chair, and it is now time to share what your school did to celebrate theatre during the month of March. All schools are urged to send a report on their celebrations and programs to McIntire as soon as possible.

Reports should include who was involved, what was done, when it was done, and where the celebration took place. McIntire would also appreciate information on the number of participants and audience, special proclamations, and any follow-through that has been done. This could include programs, flyers, buttons, articles and anything special you would like to share.

Suggestions or requests for TIOSM '95 are also being requested. McIntire's address is 415 South 3rd, Arkansas City, KS 67005.



Balderson Family Honored With Stephen B. Cathey Award

The Balderson Family of Wamego was recognized at AKT Convention '94 with the Stephen B. Cathey Award. This award is presented to business leaders or organizations which endeavor to bring business and the arts together in Kansas. The entire Balderson Family displayed extraordinary leadership and generosity through their support of the renovation of the century-old Columbian Theatre in Wamego.

Dr. Dennis Denning of Salina, and former instructor at Marymount College, was inducted into the AKT Hall of Fame at this year's convention.

Kate Lindsay, drama instructor at Salina South High School, was chosen

Educator of the Year.

Awards of Merit were presented to Emporia State University Theatre for its production of Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. Their production was selected as an ACTF entry this last year. The William Inge Festival of Independence was also recognized with an Award of Merit for its ongoing outstanding work in theatre. Ric Averill received an Award of Merit for his production of "T-Money and Wolf." Averill wrote and directed this script which was performed at the JFK Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C.

Columbian Theatre Earns \$300,000 Challenge Grant

The J.E. and L.E. Mabee Foundation in Tulsa, Oklahoma, has awarded a \$300,000 challenge grant to the Columbian Theatre Foundation of Wamego. The grant will help support the renovation of The Columbian. The century-old theatre will serve the region as a 250 seat theatre, art gallery, museum and education center. The Columbian Foundation has raised a total of \$1,702,217 towards its campaign goal of \$1,830,000.

"Clark Balderson's extraordinary leadership as campaign chair and Wilard and Ione Balderson and the entire Balderson family's vision and generosity have been key to our success," said Bill Ditto, board President.

Other major donors are Jan and Dave Vanderbilt, who helped to buy the theatre building in 1989, and recently expanded their pledge to earn the Challenge grant. Board member and benefactor Edna Mae Peddicord's memorial gifts in honor of her family have helped fund stage construction and purchase a concert quality piano.

The Columbian has received more than 350 gifts, primarily from donors in the Wamego area and major grants from the Kansas Department of Commerce and the Kansas Arts Commission.

AKT Board Member Linda Uthoff serves as Artistic Director for The Columbian.

Newton Community Theatre Continues to Grow

Founded almost 30 years ago, the Newton Community Theatre is bursting at the seams with growth and activity.

During the past two years, NCT can

Kansas Arts Group Receives \$50,000

The Association of Community Arts Agencies of Kansas (ACAANK) became the first statewide arts agency in the country ever to receive a \$50,000 planning and program stabilization grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. Located in Salina, ACAANK offers consulting and training services to community organizations that collectively represent a broad range of arts and artists.

Spread over two years, the grant is a much needed boost for the arts in Kansas. ACAANK will use the grant to establish a statewide marketing program for its nearly 200 member agencies in hopes of reaching new audiences for local arts programs.

Ellen Morgan, ACAANK executive director, said, "With this grant we'll be able to promote the arts in Kansas like we've never been able to before."

boast of tripling its number of patrons. Community involvement includes: providing, without charge, face-painting to hundreds of children at fairs and festivals; an Easter bunny and Santa Claus for patients at Newton Medical Center and at local retirement centers. NCT members rang the Christmas bells for the Salvation Army.

Each year, NCT provides scholarships to Bethel College's Seven Days of Broadway, a musical camp for young people. In conjunction with USD 373, the theatre group underwrites a performance of the Wichita Children's Theatre touring show.

A showcase of NCT's history was presented at the public library, and several Board members have been instrumental in forming a county-wide arts council.

Fiddler on the Roof will be presented by the organization this coming August in Krehbiel Auditorium on the Bethel College campus. Last summer's musical The Wizard of Oz included a cast of 90 from four ethnic groups and ranged in age from 6 to 74.

Newton Community Theatre continues to expand its involvement in the field of performing arts.

Is your theatre organization actively displaying the newly designed disability access symbols. If not, contact KAC for a brochure or a computer floppy disk. Here are a few of these symbols, and you probably have seen others throughout this newsletter. Use them.



**Association of Kansas Theatre Fiscal Year Budget Comparison
As of April 23, 1994**

| | | | 93-'94 | YTD |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|------------|
| INFLOW | | | | |
| Convention Income | | | | |
| Advertising | 300.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Class AKT | 400.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Exhibits | 0.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Meals & Hospitality | 0.00 | 247.00 | | |
| Other CR | 0.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Registrations | 4200.00 | 3992.58 | | |
| Ticket Sales | 300.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Underwriting | 0.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Convention Inc—Other | 0.00 | 0.00 | | |
| SUB-TOTAL | 5200.00 | 4239.58 | | |
| General Revenue | | | | |
| Cash Contributions NB | | 788.00 | | |
| Corporate Support NB | | 0.00 | | |
| Dues | 6500.00 | 4796.00 | | |
| Foundation Grants NB | | 0.00 | | |
| Government Grants | 000.00 | 2700.00 | | |
| Interest | 0.00 | 16.37 | | |
| Miscellaneous Revenue NB | | 65.00 | | |
| GR Other NB | | 310.71 | | |
| SUB-TOTAL | 9500.00 | 8666.08 | | |
| Programs & Services | | | | |
| Marquee | | | | |
| Advertising | 0.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Grants & Contributions | | 2500.00 | | |
| 2500.00 | | | | |
| Marquee Other | 0.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Other P & S | 0.00 | 0.00 | | |
| UC Festival | 500.00 | 0.00 | | |
| SUB-TOTAL | 3000.00 | 2500.00 | | |
| TOTAL INFLOWS | 17700.00 | 14205.66 | | |
| OUTFLOWS | | | | |
| Central Office | | | | |
| Conference Reg. | 0.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Discretionary | 650.00 | 132.31 | | |
| Membership Dues | 150.00 | 110.00 | | |
| Office Equipment | 0.00 | 294.02 | | |
| Other Central Office | 0.00 | 382.68 | | |
| Postage | 650.00 | 493.81 | | |
| Printing | 175.00 | 218.66 | | |
| Rent Paid | 1000.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Supplies | 525.00 | 103.95 | | |
| Telephone | 700.00 | 716.71 | | |
| Travel & Other | 200.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Central Office Other | 0.00 | 0.00 | | |
| SUB-TOTAL | 4050.00 | 2452.14 | | |
| Convention Expense | | | | |
| Afterglow | 00.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Awards | 300.00 | 141.00 | | |
| Decorations | 150.00 | 73.86 | | |
| Entertainment | 650.00 | 650.00 | | |
| Facilities | 0.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Honoraria | 600.00 | 834.90 | | |
| Hotel & Meals | 1200.00 | 2074.31 | | |
| Miscellaneous | 200.00 | 242.38 | | |
| Other Printing | 100.00 | 511.26 | | |
| Photography | 50.00 | 16.18 | | |
| Postage | 300.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Program Printing | 400.00 | 333.19 | | |
| | | | | |
| Publicity | 200.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Sales—Class AKT | 0.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Supplies | 100.00 | 190.22 | | |
| Telephone | 100.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Travel | 600.00 | 474.91 | | |
| State | 0.00 | 65.00 | | |
| Sales Tax Other | 0.00 | 9.75 | | |
| SUB-TOTAL | 0.00 | 85.08 | | |
| Convention Exp. Other | 0.00 | 0.00 | | |
| SUB-TOTAL | 5250.00 | 5542.21 | | |
| Division Expense | | | | |
| GA & O | 500.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Executive Dir. Salary | 2500.00 | 0.00 | | |
| FICA (AKT) | 200.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Interim Salary | 1200.00 | 2000.00 | | |
| GA&O | 0.00 | 0.00 | | |
| SUB-TOTAL | 3900.00 | 2000.00 | | |
| Publications | | | | |
| Directory Printing | 1000.00 | 417.62 | | |
| Marquee | 2500.00 | 706.40 | | |
| Publications Other NB | | 0.00 | | |
| SUB-TOTAL | 3500.00 | 1124.02 | | |
| Sales Tax | | | | |
| City & County | 0.00 | 10.33 | | |
| Tax | 0.00 | 0.00 | | |
| UC Festival | 500.00 | 0.00 | | |
| TOTAL OUTFLOWS | 17700.00 | 11203.45 | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | SUMMARY | |
| INFLOWS | | | | |
| Convention Income | 5200.00 | 4239.58 | | |
| General Revenue | 9500.00 | 8666.08 | | |
| Programs & Services | 3000.00 | 2500.00 | | |
| TOTAL | 17700.00 | 14205.66 | | |
| OUTFLOWS | | | | |
| Central Office | 4050.00 | 2452.14 | | |
| Convention Expense | 5250.00 | 5542.21 | | |
| Division Expense | 500.00 | 0.00 | | |
| GA & O | 3900.00 | 2000.00 | | |
| Publications | 3500.00 | 1124.02 | | |
| Sales Tax | 0.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Tax | 0.00 | 85.08 | | |
| U/C Festival | 500.00 | 0.00 | | |
| TOTAL | 17700.00 | 11203.45 | | |
| TOTAL INFLOW | 17700.00 | 14205.66 | | |
| TOTAL OUTFLOW | 17700.00 | 11203.45 | | |
| TOTAL CASH BALANCE | | (+)3002.21 | | |

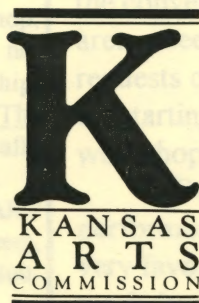
AKT Board of Directors

| | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
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|--|---|---|--|

The Marquee

The Association of Kansas Theatre
230 Curtis Street
Hutchinson, KS 67502-2422

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